REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 7 – 14 and 17 – 25 are pending in this application with claims 3, 7, 8, 10 - 12 and 17 – 18 being amended, claims 1 and 19 being canceled by this response and new claims 20 – 25 are being added by this amendment. New independent claim 20 has been added for consideration. Support for new independent claims 20 - 25 can be found on pages 25 – 34 of the specification. Claims 3 and 12 have been amended to be dependent on new claim 20. Claims 7, 8, 10, 11, 17 and 18 have been formally amended for purposes of clarity in order to conform with the terminology contained in new claim 20 from which they all depend.

Claims 1, 3, 9, 12 – 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 9, 12 – 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nantz et al. (US Patent NO 5,873,412) in view of Petite et al. (US Patent No 6,437,692) and Hoffman et al. (US Patent No. 5,742,233) and further in view of Rabanne et al. (US Patent No. 6,084, 517). Claim 1 has been cancelled and claims 3, 9 and 12 – 14 have been amended to be dependent on new claim 20. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection to claim 1 is moot. As claims 3, 9 and 12 – 14 are now dependent on new claim 20, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection to claims 3, 9 and 12 – 14 is also moot. Thus, it is further respectfully submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1, 3, 9, 12 – 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nantz et al. (US Patent NO 5,873,412) in view of Petite et al. (US Patent No 6,437,692) and Hoffman et al. (US Patent No. 5,742,233). Claim 19 has been cancelled and thus it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 19 is moot. Thus, it is further respectfully submitted that this rejection has been satisfied and should be withdrawn.

The present invention as disclosed in new claim 20 is a combination vehicle alarm and locator device. The device includes a housing. A vehicle alarm control system is positioned within the housing and includes a first transmitter for selectively transmitting at least one of an activation signal for activating a vehicle alarm and a deactivation signal for deactivating a vehicle alarm. A vehicle alarm button is positioned on the housing and is connected to the vehicle alarm control system. Upon activation of the vehicle alarm button, the first transmitter transmits at least one of the activation signal and deactivation signal. A personal locator system is positioned within the housing and includes a global position system receiver for constantly receiving a signal representing positional information from a global positioning satellite system. The personal locator system further includes a second transmitter for constantly transmitting a signal representing the positional information to a remote location. A personal alarm button is positioned on the housing and is connected to the personal locator system. Upon depressing the personal alarm button, the second transmitter transmits a personal alarm signal with the positional information signal for receipt by the remote location. The remote location is able to selectively track a user holding the device and, upon detecting said personal alarm signal, the remote location

uses the constantly transmitted positional information signal for directing an emergency responder to the user.

Nantz et al. disclose a lower power transmitter for use in a vehicle security system. However, Nantz et al. do not disclose nor suggest a personal locator system as in the present claimed invention. Nantz et al. neither disclose nor suggest having a second transmitter connected to a personal locator system for transmitting a personal alarm system as in the present claimed invention. Nantz et al. merely disclose a transmitter that operates at a low power that transmits a signal for activating or deactivating a vehicle alarm system. Additionally, Nantz et al. neither disclose nor suggest the personal locator system being equipped with a GPS receiver for constantly receiving a signal representing positional information as in the present claimed invention. Nantz et al. also neither disclose nor suggest a personal locator system constantly transmitting a positional information signal to a remote location for tracking thereof. Furthermore, Nantz et al. make no suggestion that their invention be combined with a personal locator system of the type disclosed in the present claimed invention.

Petite et al. discloses a system for monitoring a variety of conditions using a plurality of wireless transmitters integrated into a sensor adapted to monitor a particular data input. Specifically, the Examiner identifies Figure 3E of Petite et al. as combining a remote transponder with a GPS receiver to transmit a location signal based on information provided by the GPS. However, Figure 3E merely discloses a transceiver having a GPS connected thereto. It is clearly stated in Petite et al. that the transceiver is used to gather input data and transmit the input data across a network for receipt by a mainframe, laptop or server (See Figure 2 and the corresponding description in columns 5 – 7). Additionally, the purpose of the system as described in Petite et al.

is "to have one or more sensors read/or actuators controlled remotely, through a computer on the Internet" (see column 2, lines 54 – 57). Additionally, the transceivers of Petite et al. are intended to be connected to or placed on objects that are selectively moveable, not carried by a person as in the present claimed invention. Furthermore, the transceiver of Figure 3E is used merely to detect. Figure 3E does not disclose or suggest that the transceiver includes a personal alarm button as for activation by a user in the case of an emergency as in the present claimed invention.

Petite et al. neither disclose nor suggest a personal locator system of the present invention for constantly receiving a signal representing positional information from a GPS satellite system as in the present claimed invention. Petite et al. also neither disclose nor suggest a transmitter for constantly transmitting the positional information signal for receipt by a remote location for tracking thereof as in the present claimed invention. Rather, Petite et al. merely is closes a transceiver for transmitting latitude and longitude which is received and monitor by a central location. Furthermore, Petite et al. do not disclose or suggest a personal locator system wherein a user can selectively activate a personal locator button and transmit a personal location signal along with positional location signal for receipt by a remote location as in the present claimed invention.

Additionally, it is unclear in Petite et al. why one skilled in the art would seek to combine the monitoring system disclosed therein with a system for activating and deactivating a car alarm. Since, there is no indication that Petite et al. contemplate a device which is portable and locally activated by the user, it is unclear why it is obvious to combine the inventions a device as disclosed in Nantz et al. with the remote monitoring system disclosed in Petite et al.

Hoffman et al. disclose a signaling system including a signaling unit, a remote alarm switch, a central dispatch station and a communication system. However, Hoffman et al. neither disclose nor suggest a personal locator system for constantly receiving a signal representing positional information from a GPS satellite system as in the present claimed invention. Hoffman et al. also neither disclose nor suggest a transmitter for constantly transmitting the positional information signal for receipt by a remote location for tracking thereof as in the present claimed invention. Furthermore, Hoffman et al. does not disclose nor suggest a personal locator system wherein a user can selectively activate a personal locator button and transmit a personal location signal along with constantly transmitted positional location signal for receipt by a remote location as in the present claimed invention. Also, Hoffman et al. neither disclose nor suggest a vehicle alarm system for selectively activating and deactivating a vehicle alarm as in the present claimed invention.

Rabanne et al. discloses a system for selectively detecting the presence of a plurality of objects in proximity to a person. The system disclosed by Rabanne et al. only contemplates detecting an object that is a short distance away from a second unit. The sytem of Rabanne et al. merely notifies a person when an object is no longer in proximity to that person. Rabanne et al. neither disclose nor suggest a combination vehicle alarm system and personal locator system as in the present claimed invention. Additionally, Rabanne et al. neither disclose nor suggest constantly receiving a signal representing positional information from a GPS System as in the present invention. Rabanne et al. also neither disclose nor suggest constantly transmitting that positional information signal to a remote location. Rather, the only signal Rabanne et al. constantly transmits is from a child unit and represents a location signal for determining if the position of that child unit with respect to the parent unit. Further, the GPS system disclosed in

Rabanne et al. is used only to determine the position of the parent and child units with respect to one another and to ensure that the child unit is within a specific range from the parent unit. Thus, the location signal in Rabanne et al. is not the same signal as the positional information signal of the present claimed invention.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted the invention as disclosed in claim 20 is patentable over the prior art of record and therefore is in condition for allowance. Thus, as claims 3, 7 – 14, 17 – 19 and 21 – 25 are dependent on claim 20 it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable for the same reasons as claim 20 discussed above.

Alternatively, should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance and issuance, he is cordially invited to contact Mr. Michael Kroll, Esq. at 171 Stillwell Lane, Syosset, New York 11791, telephone number (516) 367-7774, so that the present application can receive an early notice of allowance.

In the event there are further issues remaining in any respect the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone attorney to reach agreement to expedite issuance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
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By _____
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 5, 2003.

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Date: September 5, 2003

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